

JEPAL

Journal of English Pedagogy and Applied Linguistics

<https://jurnal.masoemiversity.ac.id/index.php/englishpedagogy>

Submitted: 6 December 2021 Accepted: 27 February 2022 Available Online: 28 February 2022

DECLARATIVE CONSTANT POLARITY TAG QUESTIONS: AN ANALYSIS OF SYNTAX AND SEMANTICS

Dianita Damayanti

Politeknik Pajajaran

dhe.damayanti@gmail.com

Abstract: This research focused on the forms and meanings of the declarative constant polarity tag in spoken American English. Therefore, this study was conducted quantitatively in the form of a descriptive analysis of the use of form-tag questions in American English. The data was taken from the spoken component of the American television sitcom created by David Crane and Marta Kauffman, which aired on NBC from September 22, 1994, to May 6, 2004, lasting ten seasons. There are over 158 constant polarity tag questions in spoken English. The results concerning the form of the verb be and the subject it belongs to are mostly used in the tag question. The meanings of declarative constant polarity signify a higher use of "doubt" tags involving interlocutors in American English conversation. Declarative constant tag questions are interesting points to be researched on a wider scope by using more sorts of them in formal conversation.

Keywords: interpersonal meaning, polarity, tag questions

INTRODUCTION

The tag question can play an important role in conversation between speakers and hearers. It is important for both interlocutors to have common knowledge in order to communicate more effectively. The ability to understand what is being intended by a tag question and to respond appropriately will enable the interlocutor tremendously in their interaction. Many linguists have investigated various types of tags. (Cuenca, 1997; McGregor, 1997; Nair, 1991). Turn-allocation and evidential modification are possible with tag questions, which consist of a host and some kind of tag. The tags contain an auxiliary agreed with a pronoun, recalling the finite and subject of the host clause. They are reverse polarity, as seen in (1, 2), or the same polarity as in (3, 4).

- (1) Well, he's changed, hasn't he?
- (2) Then he's not talking to himself, is he?
- (3) You're familiar with the tragedies of antiquity, are you?

(4) I haven't seen that, haven't you?

In terms of polarity, two forms of tag questions can be distinguished: reverse polarity tag questions and constant polarity tag questions. There is also an option to choose between a positive or negative constant polarity.

The reverse polarity tag question has gotten a lot more attention than the constant polarity tag question. The reverse polarity tag question grammatical patterns are frequently described in detail in English reference grammars (Biber et al., 1999; McArthur, 1992), but they don't pay attention to the constant polarity tag question. Constant polarity tag questions are less common in English compared to reverse polarity tag questions. Constant polarity tag question is a spoken language that is frequently employed in informal, casual settings. Contrary to the statement that constant polarity tag questions are unpopular, Kimps (Kimps, 2007) conducted research about constant polarity tag questions in British English spoken. It showed that the constant polarity tag question has its own grammatical structure, conveys its meaning, and serves its purpose in the tag question sequence. For this study, the researcher only concentrates on constant positive polarity in American English spoken by analyzing the use of tag questions and their formal properties (polarity as well as verbs and pronouns in tags) and meaning. Declarative polarity tag questions can be distinguished from declarative, interrogative, imperative, or interrogative clauses based on the host clause's mood.

(5) I know that the bus passes don't cover that. Dave's driving, is he?

(6) Did you never meet anyone?

The researcher hasn't found any examples in the data that use an imperative or an exclamation mark as the host clause. The general frequency of the different types in the data shows that the interrogative only played a minor role, whereas declaratives accounted for 95 per cent of the examples. This article will concentrate on declarative constant polarity tag questions. The researcher will begin with McGregor's analysis of tag questions in their form and meaning.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The theory of functional grammar is used in this study, specifically interpersonal meanings, i.e. mood and modality proposed by (Eggins, 2004; Lock, 1996) and appraisal. According to the theories, interpersonal meanings reflect a speaker's attitude.

Interpersonal Meaning in Systemic Functional Grammar

Several scholars are working on ideas regarding functional grammar and its various elements. As specified by (Halliday, 1994), functional grammar is a technique of looking at grammar from the perspective of how it is utilized. It focuses on the development of grammatical systems as a mechanism for individuals to engage with one another in the subject of linguistics.

According to this, the situation's context has three aspects that influence our language choices because they reflect the three main functions of language in functional grammar: to talk about what is happening, what will happen, and what has happened; to interact or do things through language and express a point of view; and to combine the output of the previous two functions into complete coherence. According to Halliday (Halliday, 1994), coherence is a metafunction. Language is used by the textual metafunction to arrange our

experiential, logical, and interpersonal meanings into a complete and cohesive spoken and written language. claims coherence as a metafunction. The textual metafunction uses language to organize our experiential, logical, and interpersonal meaning into a complete, coherent sentence in both spoken and written language.

Mood Element

Based on (Eggins, 2004; Halliday, 1994; Lock, 1996), the mood is a method through which interpersonal meanings in the text are realized. It is made up of two parts: subject and finite. A word or a collection of words serves as the subject. The finite element is therefore a component of the verbal group, which provides information on time, modality, and polarity. Temporality and modality, according to Halliday (Halliday, 1994), are finite verbal operators. Past, present, and future verbal operators make up the temporal finite verbal operator. In the past, verbal operators such as "did," "was," and "have" were used. *Does, is, and has* an express present as well as a future that *will, shall, and should* be shown. Low modal verbal operators include *can, may, could, and might*; median modal verbal operators include *will, would, is to, and was to*; and high modal verbal operators include *must, ought to, require, have to, and have to*.

Residue

It is claimed that the remainder of each clause is referred to as residue. (Eggins, 2004; Lock, 1996). There is a common pattern of elements in the residue: predicator, complement(s), and adjudicator(s). The verb part of the clause that expresses what is being done, happening, or being is called the predicator. The subject is provided by complement. In addition, there are other types of adjuncts in context, such as circumstantial adjuncts, conjunctive adjuncts, comment adjuncts, and mood adjuncts.

Appraisal system

According to (Eggins, 2004; Lock, 1996), the assessment system is a system of interpersonal meanings. It includes attitudes that have to do with the expression of feelings, character evaluation, and appreciation, or evaluating the worth of things. Both affect and judgment have a good and negative connotation. As a result, judgment is separated into two categories: personal and moral. Personal judgments include praising (positive) and condemning (negative) actions, whereas moral judgments include praising (positive) and condemning (negative) actions (negative). As a result, appreciating things is concerned with how people feel about things and how they act. It can also be conveyed in a positive or negative way.

Tag question

Tag questions are questions constructed by inserting a tag containing of Finite^Subject (joined with positive or negative polarity) to an otherwise declarative mood clause (Lock, 1996).

(5) A: He's still there now, isn't he?

B: Yeah, I suppose so.

(6) A: The MTR [mass transit railway] doesn't normally run all night, does it?

B: No, it's just because it's a New Year's Eve tonight.

Form of tag question

The majority of tag question linguistic descriptors are grammar-related. It refers to the relationship between the tag and the host clause as well as its formal features. Tag questions are also widely accepted as expressing the speaker's initiation to the intention by designating particular attitudes and predictable responses. McGregor's (Halliday, 1994; McGregor, 1997, 1995) analysis recommends a semantic classification of their interpersonal, which is related to their specific structural realization. McGregor (Halliday, 1994; McGregor, 1997, 1995) presents his categorization of the main types of tag questions in English in Table 1.

Table 1. Major types of tag in English

Mood of stem	polarity	Example
Indicative	Reverse, + -	You're going aren't you
	Reverse, - +	You aren't going are you
	Same, + +	You're going are you
	Same, - -	You aren't going aren't you
Interrogative	Same, + +	Are you going are you
Imperative	Reverse, + -	Come here won't you
	Reverse, - +	Don't come here will you
	Same, + +	Come here will you
	Same, - -	Don't come here won't you
Exclamative	Reverse, + -	What a bank balance, isn't it?

Using host clause, polarity, and tag as limits, McGregor (McGregor, 1995) identified ten subtypes. Positive declarative constant polarity tag questions are included in this grouping, which is the focus of this article, as well as interrogative constant polarity tag questions, which I've also found in my data. McGregor's (McGregor, 1995) analysis is distinguished the syntagmatic relationship between the host clause and the tag as a different whole type connection. According to McGregor (McGregor, 1995), the meaning of the host clause's mood, the meaning of the tag's elliptical interrogative mood, and the meaning of the syntagmatic relationship involved in tag creation all contribute to the meaning of the tag question.

Meaning of declarative constant polarity tag questions

Based on McGregor (McGregor, 1995), the meanings of the host clause's mood (evidential modification), the meaning of the tag's elliptical interrogative mood (conduciveness), and the meaning of the syntagmatic relationship involved in tag construction are all construction elements that contribute to the meaning of the tag question (attitudinal uses). The researcher will concentrate on the basic "interpersonal" meanings of the various pragmatic uses of declarative constant polarity tag questions in actual usage in this study.

Starting with a cautious demeanor, it is clear that the question tag serves as a face-saving device. It is primarily associated with feelings of empathy. Second, neutral use is distinguished primarily by uncertainty, which is typically expressed as seeking verification and establishing common ground with the recipient. Many examples of this subtype are on the tentative side of the spectrum, with the speaker attempting to challenge some conclusions. The basic attitudes (Kimps, 2007), namely surprise, doubt, and disagreement, in the use of a disobedient attitude, are triggered by uncertainty.

Table 2. Attitudinal uses of declarative constant polarity tag questions in relation to their meaning and function

Attitudinal Uses		
Challenging	Neutral	Tentative
Disagreement	Uncertainty	Empathy
Disbelief/doubt		
Surprise		

The fundamental attitude stems from the expression of uncertainty, in which the speaker indicates to the listener that new information or conclusions are unexpected or even contradict the speaker's previous beliefs. These attitudes (McGregor, 1995) are somewhat "firm" in the sense that they challenge the recipient to confirm or justify the proposition's truth. These various attitudes are either challenging, rejecting, and uncooperative, or neutral, verifying, and cooperative.

From declarative constant polarity tag questions, the "surprise" tone is fairly common. This indicates to the listener that the proposition surprised the speaker, but that the speaker's attitude toward the proposition's implications is largely neutral.

- (7) And then perhaps, Margaret, you'll collect them, will you?
- (8) Well, we're gonna say staff comment, are we?

The most common attitude that results from uncertainty is "doubt" or "distrust." This reveals that the speaker's original belief contradicts the host clause's proposition. Because of the difficult nature of these tag questions, they frequently produce elicit hostile or mocking undertones. In such cases, the question tag appears to reveal that the listener may have misled the speaker or that the listener did not fully comprehend about the implications of his/her previous statement.

- (9) I don't think it applied to technical consultants... Oh yes... is it?
- (10) Just put it there cos she wants you to. Oh, is it?

The final fundamental challenging stance is "disagree". This tag question expresses (Kimps, 2007) the speaker's disagreement with the proposition's stated truth or fact. More specifically, they may express dissatisfaction with the proposition's implied consequences or the people who caused it. The smallest group of attitudes expressed by declarative constant polarity tag questions speakers can be categorized as tentative or face-saving attitudes.

- (11) You go down there, do you?
- (12) That'll satisfy everybody, will it?

Speakers want to show empathy for their audience. It entails showing friendliness and a relaxed demeanor, as well as showing concern for the listener.

- (13) It's a resources pack. Mm...It's his own, is it?
- (14) Erm, I don't know, you, we have ten, is it ten?

The speaker wishes to protect the proposition's conclusions or suggestions while casually relating the host clause's proposition to the listener or a third party.

- (15) I'll collect them, shall I?

The researcher involves the different pragmatic uses to which declarative constant polarity tag questions may be put in actual usage. Moreover, the researcher will explain the basic "interpersonal" meanings of the declarative constant polarity tag questions represented by McGregor (McGregor, 1995). Table 2 shows how attitudinal uses are related to different types of evidential modification and how they influence the conduciveness of the tag question. They are broadly classified into three types: challenging, neutral, and tentative attitudes (Kimps, 2007).

METHOD

The purpose of this article is to present the results of a quantitative study of the use of form-tag questions in American English. First, the researcher presents the data and accounts for the recapture of potential tag questions from the corpora. This is followed by a description of how tag questions are used in general and their formal properties (polarity as well as verbs and pronouns in tags). The researcher then shifts her focus to semantics. The researcher made use of the verbal component of the American television sitcom created by David Crane and Marta Kauffman, which aired on NBC from September 22, 1994, to May 6, 2004, lasting ten seasons.

The researcher was able to gather over 158 constant polarity tag questions in spoken English. Based on the mood of the host clause, the researcher can distinguish constant polarity tag questions with a declarative, an imperative, or an interrogative, e.g., *You're going to write Phoebe, are you? Will you go wake your mom? Are you a designer, Peter? Are you?* The researcher found no examples of exclamation marks being used as host clauses. The general frequencies of the different subtypes in the data show that interrogatives (4%) and imperatives (13%) account for a small portion of the examples, while declaratives account for 95% of the examples. The focus of this article is on the most common subtype of constant polarity tag questions, declarative constant polarity tag questions. This type of tag question is an obvious starting point for the investigation of constant polarity tag questions due to its relatively high frequency and variation.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

This part of the writing presents the result of the study and the discussion related to the result. The collected data from each question will consecutively be displayed first followed by the discussion to understand the result.

Form of declarative constant polarity tag questions

Auxiliaries and Modal Verb in Tags

In addition, the researcher investigated the various tools and modalities that appear as operators in question tags. Table 2 displays the results. The *be* verb form is the most common operator in variety, accounting for nearly half of all instances in American English spoken. The question tag with *do* come in second. American English with the other major operators in question tags, *did*, *will*, *have*, and *can*.

Table 3. Auxiliary and pronoun frequency in tags

Auxiliary			Pronoun		
N	%		N	%	
<i>is</i>	70	44.87	<i>he</i>	9	5.77
<i>am</i>	1	0.64	<i>she</i>	3	1.92
<i>are</i>	12	7.69	<i>it</i>	76	48.72
<i>was</i>	9	5.77	<i>they</i>	16	10.26
<i>were</i>	2	1.28	<i>we</i>	14	8.97
<i>do</i>	15	9.62	<i>you</i>	26	16.03
<i>does</i>	5	3.21	<i>I</i>	3	1.92
<i>did</i>	9	5.77	<i>there</i>	10	6.41
<i>has</i>	4	2.56			
<i>have</i>	10	6.41			
<i>will</i>	6	3.85			
<i>would</i>	6	3.85			
<i>shall</i>	1	0.64			
<i>can</i>	6	3.85			
Total	156	100		156	100

There is a significant difference between *have* and *do* in American English. American English prefers to use *do* tags for the past and the simpler *have* to express possession. First, the well-known preference of American English for the past (Elsness, 1997) would lead to a higher occurrence of *do* tags in American English. Second, the American preference for having express possession (Biber et al., 1999, p. 463) would also result in *do* tags.

The research first set the total number of questions tag, where current perfect or past is used with past time references. As a result, we saw perfect forms of the types shown in (18) and (19) as well as past shown here with (20) to (21):

- (16) I think we ought to sort that out to peak demands. That's got nothing to do with recycling, has it?
- (17) It's ... swimming pool, has it?
- (18) They actually quoted a hundred thousand pound...er...figure, did they?
- (19) I know we team briefed last time last time round but su... did we?

Table 4. Time past reference by means of perfect, past and present in the American English spoken

Perfect host clauses with has/have tag		Past host clauses with did tag	
N	%	N	%
14	8.97	9	5.76

This yields a total of English tag questions with past time references, expressed by 14 current perfect forms and 9 past forms (see Table 4).

Table 5. Host clause types in tag question with tag

Host clause	<i>has/have</i> tag		<i>do/does/did</i> tag	
	N	%	N	%
regular lexical verb	7	4.48	28	17.94
have got	5	5.12	1	0.64
has/have possessive	2	1.28		

Table 5 demonstrates that the perfect forms found in American English host clause clauses are, in fact, various combinations of got with meanings of possession or duty (i.e., they are present perfectly only in terms of form, not meaning). Only 5/156 host clauses have the *got* form followed by the *have* tag. The anchor clause *has/has got* is followed by *do/does* in the tag American English, as in (20-21),

- (20) We've got to keep repeating that....er...does it?
- (21) They have never put money in banks, do they?

The most important takeaway from Table 5 is that the *do* tag tense currently reflects consistent lexical verbs in 18 per cent of all instances in American English. The *do*, *have* and *have got* forms come before the tag. The *have* tag after the anchor with *have* can still use, as shown in (45), but not after the negative anchor; (44) is typical.

- (22) Peter you've got forms, have you?
- (23) You've you've done South Wales, have you?

The most frequent of these is *have*, most commonly happening in positive forms, and as is well known, *do* is normally used as a "code" (Quirk et al., 1972) for having American English.

Pronouns and Verb Pronoun Combinations in Tags

Pronoun *it* in question tags, as occurs from table 5, has a much higher number of examples in American English spoken than pronoun *you* and *they*.

- (26) I don't think the problem is quite so great with clothing, is it?
- (27) You're going up a ladder, are you?
- (28) Well. Regional railways have asked for that as well, have they?

Table 6. The most frequent question tags

Tag	N	%
<i>was it?</i>	7	4.49
<i>do they?</i>	6	3.85
<i>do you?</i>	7	4.49
<i>have you?</i>	6	3.85
<i>is it?</i>	54	34.6
<i>is there?</i>	9	5.77
<i>is he?</i>	5	3.21
<i>are they?</i>	5	3.21

The most common forms in American English is shown in Table 6. *Is it?* is the high-level tag with over 34.6 per cent. *Is there?* ranks second with 5.77 per cent. *Do*-tags rank is lower in American English *do they* and *do you* with 4 per cent and 5 per cent. Other than the personal

pronoun, *there* is only one word that appears as a subject tag in my data. These are the most uncommon, accounting for only 5.77 per cent. *There* are only combined with the *be* forms, as in (29-32).

- (29) There's no new recycling center nearby for plastics, is there?
- (30) That's arrived, then there's absolutely no point in doing that, is there?
- (31) There's no more security anywhere at the moment, is there?
- (32) Yeah. There's fewer than there were before, is there?

Meaning of declarative constant polarity tag questions

To comprehend the variations in the distribution of declarative constant polarity tag questions in American English, we must first consider why they are used at all, as well as their meaning and function in discourse. In this section, the researcher focuses on the interpersonal meaning of declarative constant polarity tag questions from McGregor (McGregor, 1995a). It will be divided into challenging attitudes, namely surprise, doubt, and disagreement; a neutral attitude of uncertainty expression; and a tentative attitude of suggestion. (Kimps, 2018)

Table 7. Meaning of declarative constant polarity tag questions

Tag types	N	%
Surprise	53	33.97
Doubt	61	39.10
Disagreement	12	7.69
Uncertainty	27	17.30
Empathy	3	1.92
Total	156	100

The most common tone for expressing doubt was declarative constant polarity tag inquiries, which appeared in 34% of cases. In this case, the implications of tag modalization include the abrupt recognition of the relevance of the proposition in the host clause. This tells the listener that the speaker was surprised by the assertion but that the speaker's attitude toward the implications of the proposition is mostly neutral, as in (30–31), and isn't necessarily accompanied by more negative and challenging usage. This sort of declarative constant polarity tag inquiry tells the listener that the speaker expects a positive answer.

- (30) Oh, you've got one, have you?
- (31) Oh, it's a lease car, is it?

Declarative constant polarity tag inquiries reflect an inference made by the speaker based on common ground or interpretations of the situation (30–31) that were not mentioned during the conversation. Occasionally, however, the proposition's unexpectedness prompts an expression of surprise (Kimps, 2007).

The most common reaction to uncertainty is "doubt", which is found in 40 per cent of the corpus with a disobedient attitude. This demonstrates how the speaker's original beliefs contradict the host clause proposition. In certain circumstances, tag questions appear to suggest that listeners may have led the speaker to the incorrect conclusion or that the listener does not completely comprehend the implications of the prior statement.

(32) Eventually we'll all have locks on windows... fully insured, are you?

(33) Eight thirty. And this is about the leaflet, is it?

(34) Well, the advisors do nothing, do they?

Declarative constant polarity tag questions are responses to a recently made statement or action. It's also not out of the idea that the tag question is a last remark based on the preceding conversation's common ground (32). Furthermore, the ambiguous nature of "doubt" or "disbelief" challenges the listener to respond positively (33). Although the hearer confirms the majority of examples, this confirmation is typically followed by a justification or qualification (34). The final fundamental challenging stance is "disagreement." It happened in 8% of the data. This tag question expresses the speaker's disagreement with the proposition's stated truth or fact. More specifically, they may express dissatisfaction with the proposition's implied consequences or the people who caused it.

(35) Without any problem but you never know, do you?

(36) He never wasted any, did he?

The speaker receives information from the audience; he turns listeners as a source of knowledge or even authority. Because a conclusion can easily be contradicted, the answer can be negative, even though listeners want confirmation.

(37) I think they're quite abrupt and rude whenever I've phoned them up, are they?

(38) I don't think the problem is quite so great with clothing, is it?

(39) This isn't hard I don't think this would be hard, will it?

The occurrence of hesitancy, such as *I think, I don't think* is the clearest indicator of speaker uncertainty. The use of auxiliary *will*, are also indicative of this category. All personal pronouns are possible with this type of tag question.

Declarative constant polarity tag questions can be used by the speaker to show a hesitation but it can appear to empathize toward the listener by expressing consideration. The speaker wishes to shield the proposition's inferences or suggestions. Speaker plans to convince listeners of this notion or attempts to give the sense of inference by acting to be unsure.

(40) It's to provide people with the opportunity use the wipes if safety precaution. Oh, we'll sort it out anyway, Sue, shall we?

This tag question is very cooperative by using auxiliary *shall*. It appears with plural person pronouns.

CONCLUSION

According to the data analysis, the form of declarative constant polarity tag questions mostly uses the verb form as finite and as a subject. The declarative constant polarity tag questions show that the speaker has a low commitment to the proposition's truth and a high level of obligation toward the listener. Furthermore, declarative constant polarity tag questions are an effective method of shift allocation; specifically, they are usually conducive to a positive response. Declarative constant polarity tag questions are somewhere between challenging and neutral, expressing uncertainty or seeking verification, while being tentative

is uncommon. The number of spoken examples in my data reveals that comedy writers are aware of the declarative constant polarity tag questions highly for challenging use and concentrate on the broader range of attitudes expressed by the declarative constant polarity tag questions in actual use. To some extent, this corresponds to the declarative constant polarity tag questions' limited scope in linguistic descriptions thus far. Declarative constant tag questions are interesting points to be researched on a wider scope by using more sorts of them in formal conversation.

REFERENCES

- Biber, D., Johansson, S., Leech, G., Conrad, S., & Finegan, E. (1999). *Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English*. Persons Education Limited.
- Cuenca, M. J. (1997). Form-use mappings for tag questions. In W.-A. Liebert, G. Redeker, & L. Waugh (Eds.), *Discourse and Perspective in Cognitive Linguistics* (pp. 3–19). John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Eggs, S. (2004). *An Introduction to Systemic Functional Linguistics: 2nd Edition*. Continuum Interactional Publishing Group. <http://books.google.ae/books?id=sS7UXugIIg8C>
- Elsness, J. (1997). The Perfect and the Preterite in Contemporary and Earlier English. In *Angewandte Chemie International Edition*, 6(11), 951–952. Mounon de Gruyter.
- Halliday, M. A. K. (1994). *An Introduction to Functional Grammar: Second Edition*. Edward Arnolds Publisher Limited.
- Kimps, D. (2007). Declarative constant polarity tag questions: A data-driven analysis of their form, meaning and attitudinal uses. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 39(2), 270–291. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pragma.2006.08.003>
- Kimps, D. (2018). *Tag Questions in Conversation: A Typology of their Interactional and Stance Meanings* (Vol. 83). John Benjamins Publishing Company. <http://www.jbe-platform.com/content/books/9789027264336>
- Lock, G. (1996). *Functional English Grammar: An Introduction for Second Language Teachers*. Cambridge University Press.
- McArthur, T. (1992). *The Oxford Companion to the English Language*. Oxford University Press.
- McGregor, W. B. (1995a). 3. The English 'tag question.' 91. <https://doi.org/10.1075/cilt.118.04mcg>
- McGregor, W. B. (1997). *Semiotic Grammar*. Oxford University Press.
- McGregor, W. B. (1995b). The English 'Tag Question': a new analysis, is(n't) it? In R. Hasan & P. H. Fries (Eds.), *On Subject and Theme. A Discourse Functional Perspective. Current Issues in Linguistic Theory* (pp. 91–121). Benjamins.
- Nair, R. B. (1991). Expressing doubt and certainty : The tag question and the ' to ' particle in some Indian languages. *Language Sciences*, 13(2), 207–227. <https://doi.org/03880001/91>
- Quirk, R., Greenbaum, S., Leech, G., & Svartvik, J. A. N. (1972). *A Grammar of Contemporary English*. Longman Group Ltd.